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At mihi plaudo
Ipse domi, simul ac nummos contempler in arca.

— Hor., Sat. I, i. 66.

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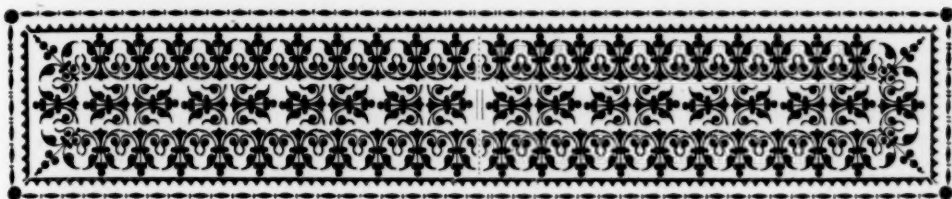
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ANCIENT GREEK SILVER COINS
FROM THE BENSON COLLECTION.



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ANCIENT GREEK COINS.

XV. SICILY, 5. (ZANKLE — MESSANA.)

BY FRANK SHERMAN BENSON.

[Continued from Vol. XXXIX, p. 35.]



OUR oldest historical record of Sicily tells that at the extreme northeastern corner, where the strait is at its narrowest, there lay a spacious harbor almost enclosed by the slender promontory which curved around its waters in the shape of a reaping-hook. At this spot, the true gateway of the island, must have landed those hordes of warlike Sikels, who centuries before had been ferried across in rude rafts from their native Italian shore for the conquest of helpless Sicily; which, once accomplished, the invaders were doubtless so impressed by the importance of the site as to lose no time in establishing here their first permanent settlement.

The story of aboriginal Zankle, as it was naturally named from *zanklon*, the Sikel word for reaping-hook, was probably uneventful until broken by the appearance of the first Greek settlers. These were, however, merely private adventurers from Italy, whose informal foundation was made official by the arrival in 715 B. C., of a colonizing expedition from Chalkis and Kyme conjointly, led by duly accredited founders. No further change occurred, it would seem, until the year 493, when, during the war between Skythes, ruling king of Zankle, and Anaxilas, tyrant of Rhegium, the former's generous but

rash offer of hospitality to the fleeing exiles from Miletos received such base return at the hands of these treacherous strangers, that in the end Skythes, whom Herodotus calls "the most righteous of the Greeks," found himself banished to the court of King Darius; while Anaxilas had become undisputed master of Zankle as well as of his hereditary domain across the strait. The order of events now becomes somewhat uncertain; but it was only a few years after these disturbances that Anaxilas expelled his Samian fellow-conspirators, and imposed upon the city a new name, both to emphasize his complete overthrow of the ancient government, and to honor his remote Messenian ancestors. So that henceforth on its coinage and in its history Zankle is known as Messena, or later Messana,—the Dorian influence soon predominating over the Ionian.

In the fifth century Messana displayed even greater instability than most Sicilian towns, owing to the unsettled character of her population, which was continually varied by the influx of new and sometimes turbulent elements. Thus we find frequent and sudden reversals of policy as one party or the other gains the ascendant; the city now allied, now at enmity with neighboring towns; and when the great question arose, first favoring the Athenian alliance, then wholly devoted to Syracuse.

Threatened by Dionysios, who left in peace few West Hellenic cities of his time, and preserved from this attack by Carthage, not a new but always an unnatural ally for a Greek commonwealth, Messana was at one period the only free city in all Sicily; for with this exception the entire island was, about the year 400, ruled by one or other of these implacable foes. But with the new century appeared the carefully planned expedition of Himilkon, whose resistless forces, after regaining all that Dionysios had so slowly and laboriously wrested from the Carthaginians, next proceeded to the capture of Messana; a capture no sooner accomplished than the haughty shophet with solemn and impressive religious forms deliberately levelled to the ground this fair city, in mute yet expressive symbolism that thus relentlessly might he and his country be expected to deal with aught that bore the name of Greek.

This destruction of Messana in 396 terminated its civic coinage, so that although the city, restored by Dionysios, continued to display more or less activity during the remaining Greek period, its further history need not occupy our attention.

ZANKLE.

157. Drachm, wt. 92 grs. B. C. 550-500. (Pl. XV: 1.) Obv. ΔΑΝΚΛΕ Dolphin swimming to left, within a raised partly-open curving band, bordered on each side by dots. Rev. Same type and border, incuse, to right.

(From the Evans sale, 1898; No. 61.)

This, the earliest of the Zanklaian series, introduces their constant type, which, like that of the Syracusan tetradrachms, would symbolize the city's

maritime situation. A dolphin, emblem of the flowing sea, sports within a sickle-shaped three-quarter circle, the curve of which of course denotes the tongue of land forming the harbor, just as the opening signifies its entrance. We should mark this inscription, which, in the rare nominative, shows that the actual form of the name, as handed down from the Sikels, was Dankle.

But that which excites the liveliest interest in connection with this coin is the fact that nowhere else in Sicily is there a reverse type which presents the incuse copy of its obverse. To find a similar peculiarity, we must return to Magna Graecia, where we have seen, in discussing the examples of this character shown on Plate I, that in the sixth century there existed a commercial league, composed of the leading Achaian cities, whose coinage was uniformly of this incuse pattern, and whose copious issues attest the general wealth and prosperity. Except in the case of Sybaris (No. 7), commerce between Greek cities was carried on for the most part by coasting vessels; and the present coin is clear evidence that Zankle, although a Chalkidic and hence an alien town, was deemed worthy of membership in the powerful Magna Graecian confederation. Her strong situation, commanding the narrowest passage of the dividing strait, must have occasioned this friendly action of the Italiot cities; all, and especially Kroton, eager to grasp a share of that lucrative Etruscan trade which had made Sybaris so wealthy and powerful.

Then, too, the peculiar circumstances of the coin's discovery, which fortunately have been so carefully preserved for us by Mr. Arthur Evans, and described by him at length in the *Numismatic Chronicle* for 1896, give this example an added interest. In the course of 1895 some workmen, who were engaged near modern Messina in constructing a tram line on the Catania road, while blasting rocks found a pot which contained a small hoard of Zanklaian and Naxian coins. Six were of this archaic incuse design, never before even suspected in connection with a Sicilian mint; while the early style of the remaining examples was such as to justify Mr. Evans in assigning for the date of their concealment the year 403, when we have seen the Samian and Milesian refugees so treacherously seizing the city.

Our coin thus strangely preserved, and no less strangely discovered, brings vividly before us the tumultuous scenes of twenty-four centuries ago.

Miletos, "the glory of Ionia," wealthy, populous, magnificent, the last hope of Hellenic freedom in Asia, had fallen; and its more energetic citizens, scorning to bear a foreign yoke, together with some Samians who equally despaired of their country, had as homeless fugitives sailed across the twin seas to hospitable Zankle. What must have been the alarm and consternation of the unsuspecting Zanklaians when these strangers, warmly welcomed as the invited guests of their absent king, straightway commenced the ruthless slaughter of the few warriors left behind to guard the city, and the indis-

criminate seizure of the women and children for their slaves. What scenes of despairing flight and cruel separation must have followed! Was it then that some aged man escaping by night, and finding the pursuit too fierce, or his failing strength too weak for the burden, hid in this rock crevice his little pot filled with the savings of a life of toil? Or was such the deed of some strong young warrior who saw in this concealment just before an impending clash of arms, his one hope for the future fulfillment of his dreams, a happy life of tranquil ease amidst welcome family cares?

Or perhaps some survivor of this first massacre found his need for hurried departure when, as overlord, powerful Hippokrates burst upon the troubled scene, to banish with true tyrannical injustice the outraged king, and to hand over the city formally to his betrayers. Or did this dire extremity arise some few years later when Anaxilas, deceiving and smiting friend and foe alike, seized the city for his own?

None can say; but that he whose fears or hopes were hidden with this hoard never again returned to claim his cherished treasure, is the one thing certain. So too we feel that those were days full of horror and despair, days when shameless greed and treacherous ingratitude formed the ruling motives of men's actions; and when even the most righteous cause was helpless as opposed to possession and unscrupulous power. Such is the illuminating glimpse into a dim and distant past which this long-forgotten relic of its ancient life affords the least imaginative student.

158. Drachm, wt. 89 grs. B. C. 500-493. (Pl. XV: 2.) Obv. ΔANK Dolphin swimming to left, within a raised partly-open curving band, on which are four square projections; border of dots. Rev. Incuse key pattern, within which, a scallop shell.

(From the Evans sale, 1898; No. 62.)

159. Drachm, wt. 91 grs. B. C. 500-493. (Pl. XV: 3.) Obv. ΔANKΛΕ Similar to last, but without projections. Rev. Similar to last.

While these coins present the same general type of Zankle for their obverse, the former example shows a variation worthy of careful attention. On the curved band symbolizing the projecting tongue of land are four rectangular protuberances, in which Mr. Evans finds representations of the four forts which guarded the harbor; each fort being the special charge and privilege of one of the four tribes into which from their varied origin the city was divided. The reverse figure is probably made thus intricate without any peculiar meaning except as regards its shell, always a symbol of the sea's proximity.

The last example shows the "sickle" in its plainest form, and it is of pieces after this pattern that the usual and rather copious coinage of Zankle is composed. Examples of the fortification type are more or less rare; while

of the incuse design only the six specimens from this Messina find are known.

We should add that, like other early Chalkidic colonies, Zankle followed in her coin weights the Aiginetic standard, and we thus find the three drachms just considered approximating to the maximum 97 grains of Aigina and the Islands.

MESSANA.

160. Tetradrachm, wt. 267 grs. B. C. 480-420. (Pl. XV: 4.) Obv. Biga of mules walking to right, driven by bearded charioteer, seated; in exergue, olive leaf; border of dots. Rev. $\text{ME}\Xi\Xi\text{ENION}$ Hare running to right; border of dots.

161. Tetradrachm, wt. 266 grs. B. C. 480-420. (Pl. XV: 5.) Obv. $\text{ME}\Xi\Xi\text{ANA}$ Biga of mules walking to right, driven by female charioteer (Messana); border of dots. Rev. $\text{ME}\Xi\Xi\text{ANION}$ Hare running to right; beneath, dolphin to right; border of dots.

(From the Montagu sale, No. 113.)

162. Tetradrachm, wt. 263 grs. B. C. 480-420. (Pl. XV: 6.) Obv. Similar to last, but mules crowned by flying Nike; and in exergue, olive leaf with fruit.

163. Tetradrachm, wt. 262 grs. B. C. 420-396. (Pl. XV: 7.) Obv. Similar to last, but to left, and with Nike crowning charioteer; while in exergue, two dolphins. Rev. $\text{ME}\Xi\Xi\text{ANION}$ Similar to last reverse, but beneath, head of Pan, to right.

164. Tetradrachm, wt. 260 grs. B. C. 420-396. (Pl. XV: 8.) Obv. Similar to last. Rev. $\text{ME}\Xi\Xi\text{ANION}$ in exergue. Hare running to left; above, dove flying to left; beneath, stalk of barley.

(From the Wotoch sale, No. 234.)

We have already confessed to finding a certain amount of obscurity in the precise date and order of those calamitous events which produced a sudden cessation of the old Zanklaian coinage and the adoption of these issues so different in type and fabric; but there seems, as has also been shown in the historical sketch, good authority for attributing such a complete revolution to the doubly treacherous Anaxilas. As tyrant he would ordain for the conquered city this fresh coinage, on which were displayed both of his early Rhegine types: the biga of mules with which he had gained his Olympic victory, and the running hare.

That the mule should ever have been deemed worthy of participation in the great religious contests at Olympia seems to our modern ideas most incongruous; and that the practice was indeed not wholly in harmony with Hellenic sentiment is shown by the fact that for barely more than half a century were such races included among the competitions. While the scornful refusal of Simonides to grant Anaxilas' request, that "the favored of the gods" should commemorate this victory with the customary ode, displays the poet's personal antipathy. And when at last his repugnance had been overcome by an unprecedented fee, it was as "the daughters of storm-footed horses" that the strains of his inspired lyre immortalized the lowly victors, doubtless more accustomed, then as now, to a less heroic if more forcible form of invocation.

Two reasons have been assigned for the presence of the reverse figure, and probably a combination of these influenced both Anaxilas' choice and the long continuance of the type. The hare, as the sacred emblem of the local god Pan, whose head with its goat's horn appears on No. 163, would naturally be chosen as the fitting symbol of the city's religious life; while on the other hand historians tell us that Anaxilas had from his Italian possessions introduced into the island this animal, so much esteemed as a delicacy by the ancients, and that he wished to record this praiseworthy action on his coinage. At any rate the figure appealed to the popular fancy, and the "Hares" of Messana, though far less numerous, were widely known in the same way as the "Owls" of Athens, or the "Colts" of Corinth.

My position regarding the designation of a coin's obverse and reverse having been so positively stated at the end of article XIII, it may seem that the choice of a simple biga for the obverse of this series of coins shows an inconsistency for which some explanation is due. But we must remember that the Olympic games were primarily a religious function and that a victory would impart even to the lowly *apênê* of mules such a sacred symbolism as to give its type the preference, even if the hare were surely to be considered an emblem of the great god Pan. And when in Nos. 5-8 of the plate a female charioteer appears, it is the nymph Messana, personification of the city, who guides the victorious mules, and by her divine or semi-divine presence gives still greater emphasis to the religious aspect of this type.

The dolphin on No. 161 recalls to our mind the earlier type of the city, with the same significance; while the clear logic of Mr. Arthur Evans in one of his Sicilian papers guides us amidst the uncertain mazes of vague hypothesis to a new yet natural conclusion regarding the figure of two dolphins plunging together, in the exergues Nos. 163 and 164. In their harmonious action he sees a reference to the alliance between Messana and Syracuse, and to the victory which thus combined they won over the Athenians in the sea-fight of 425. Upon certain coins of Syracuse also (Nos. 87 and 88) we found this device, which undoubtedly had there the same significance, although for want of space our text then contained no comment on either alliance or victory. The continuance of this figure on Messanian issues of a somewhat later period shows, not so much a lasting maritime connection as an unwillingness to alter recognized types.

This latter reverse (No. 164) is evidently modelled after the example examined by Mr. Evans in his paper (*Numismatic Chronicle*, 1896, Plate VIII: 9), and on which he finds a new signature ANAN, which he completes as Ananios. His coin shows these letters in front of the dove, while our example displays, immediately behind the bird, a minute yet clear architectural pattern hardly visible in the reproduction, but which a study of the original plainly shows to be a flowing conventionalized form of these same letters.

Thus for nearly a century we see such issues continuing with little alteration; and throughout these two periods, wherein artistic improvement and at least a striving after perfection are visible in all other coinages of importance, the Messanian types, always so ordinary from an artistic standpoint, remain clear evidence of the low state of culture in this flourishing city. It is hard to realize that the engravers of Nos. 163 and 164 were actual contemporaries of Euainetos, Kimon, and all that wonderful group of artists whose productions at Syracuse, Kamarina and Katane have rightly received our unstinted praise.

165. Drachm, wt. 59 grs. B. C. 420-396. (Plate XV: 9.) Obv. Head of Pelorias to left, wearing wreath of barley leaves, ear-ring and necklace; in front, ΠΕΛΩΡΙΑΣ; border of dots. Rev. Pheraimon, naked but wearing a crested helmet and armed with spear and shield, advancing to right in fighting attitude; around, ΦΕΡΑΙΜΩΝ; on right, Ξ; border of dots.

A few miles north of the city a low point stretching out even further towards the neighboring mainland and forming the real corner of Sicily, bore in early days the name Peloris. Dotted with little salt lakes wherein fish and wild fowl abounded, this sandy cape was always a favorite and profitable haunt of the citizens, who built here a temple to Poseidon; but who evidently considered the spot as sacred above all to the local nymph Pelorias — for so the coins which rescue her from oblivion would have the name.

With like mystical intent, the reverse depicts one of Aiolos' six sons, the fabled hero who, with his brother Androkles, ruled over the whole north coast of Sicily. That Pheraimon was a notable warrior, conquering and holding firmly his domain by force and arms, in those rude days when might was right, is clearly shown by his threatening posture.

The wide artistic influence of Syracusan issues is evident from the similarity in treatment between this head and the Persephone type of Euainetos, whose wonderful dekadrachms were undoubtedly, from this time on, exciting the admiration of more and more distant portions of the Greek world.

[To be continued.]

A SILVER COINAGE FOR PANAMA.

THE Government of Panama, in accordance with a suggestion of the Canal Commission and in compliance with the requests of the local bankers, has decided to coin one million silver pesos. It is believed that this step will relieve the demand for silver currency, which has arisen from the influx of workmen on the canal, and the increased business activity consequent thereon. These coins, it is understood, will be struck by the United States Mint for the young Republic; the design has not yet been announced, if indeed it has yet been determined.

UNDESCRIBED VERNONS.

WE are indebted to Mr. Benjamin Betts, of Brooklyn, N. Y., for descriptions of two Vernon Medals which do not appear in Mr. C. Wyllys Betts's "Historical Medals of America." To the descriptions we add a brief note on the number of obverse and reverse dies of this interesting series. — EDS.

The first to be mentioned is somewhat similar to B. 245, but there are variations in both obverse and reverse dies; for the purpose of distinguishing this from the others it may be styled 245*a*.

Obverse. Legend, VICE · ADMIRAL · VERNON · NON · DORMIT · QUI · VINCIT (The Latin words signifying "He who conquers does not sleep.") Admiral Vernon is shown in something more than half-length, in the naval uniform of the period, but the head bare; the body three-quarters to observer's left, the head facing; he holds the usual staff, pointing obliquely upwards, in his left hand; his right hand, extended, is seen in front of and near the muzzle of a cannon, placed obliquely upward at the left, and nearly parallel with the staff; the sea in the background, on which a ship with high, round stern is seen above the mouth of the cannon, and sailing to the left. There is no exergue, but on the cannon, in three lines, separated by encircling bands, are 17 | 39 | T M. These letters are no doubt the initials of the die-cutter; those on Betts 245 are usually read I M, and occur again on Betts 291, where they are also given as I M. On this piece they seem quite clearly to be T M. This engraver has not been certainly identified. The date is that of the battle, and the metal was probably struck in 1740 or later. It will be seen, on comparison, that among other differences on this obverse, the figure turns to the left, not the right (unless, which is not stated in Betts 245, "three-quarters right" means to *his* and not observer's right); the words, date, etc., given in Betts as in exergue, are on this partly in the legend and partly on the gun.

The device of the reverse die is of the same general design as that of 245 and obverse of 246, but there is no exergue, and THE before DUKE OF ARGYLE is lacking; the latter words are on a ribbon at the feet of the duke, close to the rim and conforming thereto.

For the purpose of completing the description, it may be noted that the duke is represented standing, nearly facing, but the body three-quarters turned to the right; he wears robes and the Order chain of the Garter, and his left hand rests upon a fluted column at the right; behind him are the British standards and a trophy of arms. Legend, IN · HUNC · INTUENS · CLARUS · ESTO (Observing this man, be thou also renowned.) Copper; size 26 (40 mm.). In the Benjamin Betts collection; somewhat corroded, and, like most of the Vernons, in poor condition, but the differences as described are clearly to be distinguished. No description of this piece having been found up to the present time, it is presumably one of the rarest of the series.

The figure on the reverse, though no name is given, is no doubt intended for the Duke of Argyle, who, with Vernon, was a prominent opponent of Walpole and his ministry, and thus the combination throws some light on the approximate date of its issue. Sir Robert Walpole, who is satirized on several Vernon medals, went from the House of Commons to the Lords in February, 1742; he had been forced into the war with Spain against his judgment, because of the popular clamor, and his opposition to it made him — especially after the victory of Vernon at Porto Bello — extremely unpopular. It seems probable, therefore, that this piece was struck in the latter part of 1740 or in 1741, and with the weight of evidence apparently in favor of the latter date, since Vernon and his fleet were busy with the Spanish at Fort Chagre, Carthagená, and Cuba, until July, 1741.

It is difficult, and probably impossible, to decide with certainty the dates of either of the Argyle-Vernon medals; one with NO PENTIONER ON a ribbon, below a figure of the duke, on the obverse, and the reverse showing the prince of darkness leading Sir Robert Walpole to the infernal regions, may allude to the resignation of his office by the latter, and his entrance to the House of Lords with the title of Earl of Orford, granted by the King when Sir Robert ceased to be Prime Minister. If this conjecture proves to be correct, the period of the Argyle medals was not much later than the spring of 1742, nor earlier than the summer of 1741.

Another Vernon medal which is known to have been in Mr. C. Wyllys Betts's cabinet, but for some unknown reason was not described by him, may be called 272 *a*. This piece was at one time in the Benjamin Betts collection, and because it was so curious he took pains to keep a description of it. The obverse and reverse were alike, and agree with the cut on page 309 of Betts, but it had a legend in script, reading PORTO BELLO: URBS: AD: VERNONO: CLASSIS: ANGLICANO: PRAEFECTO: NAVIBUS: SEX: OPPUGNATA: 22: NOV. DIES 1739: (The city of Porto Bello captured by Adm. Vernon, the English commander, with six ships, the 22d day of Nov., 1739.) This legend is closely similar to that on the obverse of Betts 274, but differs from that, as there printed, in three instances, and also from that in *Medallic Illustrations* (Geo. II, 137) in the punctuation, etc.

The number of Vernon medals is quite uncertain, but there is no doubt that the descriptions thus far printed do not by any means cover them all. The late Mr. Appleton numbered and described 75; in *Medallic Illustrations* 97 are given (see Betts, p. 94); Betts described upwards of 160, but a few are so closely alike that it is generally supposed some of these were restrikes after the worn dies had been retouched, — an opinion suggested in his work, which, it will be remembered, he did not live to carry to final completion. Several others, not in Betts or other authorities, have been described in the *Journal* since his work appeared. In Mr. Benjamin Betts's cabinet, as he informs us, there exist 108 varieties, made up of 62 obverses and about 50 reverses, sufficiently dissimilar to show them to be the products of different dies. Among them are several that *seem* to be entirely unedited, but this is difficult to be

determined with certainty without a very close examination, which he has thus far been unable to give.

Mr. Betts is so well known as a student and collector of the earlier medals relating to America that the descriptions he has given us, after a long silence, will be welcomed by all our readers. We long ago expressed the hope that he would give us the story of the Law series, with which he is no doubt more familiar than any other collector, having for many years made it a favorite study, and possessing, we believe, a fine collection of these curious medals. This hope we still cherish. — EDS.

THE 1804 DOLLAR.

SINCE my articles on the 1804 Dollar appeared in the *Journal*,— one in April, 1887, and the other in April, 1891,— researches in connection with these pieces have entirely upset the former theories entertained respecting them. No one now believes that they were coined in 1804. I must therefore repudiate all that I said in these articles about originals and restrikes.

My article published in the *Journal* of July, 1897, showed that the beading upon the 1804 Dollar was the same as that on the Dollar of 1836, then first used, and totally different from the radiated lines on the Dollars issued from 1794 to 1803, and was conclusive evidence that the 1804 Dollars were all struck after 1836.

Inasmuch as the existence of an 1804 Dollar was not known until an engraving of one appeared in 1842 in Eckfeldt and Dubois' book on coins, the inference is that the 1804 Dollar which Mr. Stickney saw in the United States Mint in 1843, together with the one he received from the Mint at that time (both uncirculated), were recently struck from the die,— probably in 1840 or 1841.

It may be well to repeat here, what has already been stated in the *Journal*, the circumstances attending the subsequent appearance of the 1804 Dollars, consecutively.

In 1843 Mr. Stickney obtained his Dollar from the Mint; in 1845 the Parmelee Dollar was received from the Mint by a lady; and about 1846 Dr. Spiers got his Dollar in Philadelphia. As this piece was struck in base-metal and has a plain edge, I am inclined to think that it is a trial-piece, and probably the first impression from the die. About 1850 the Mickley Dollar was received on deposit in a bank in Philadelphia; in 1865 the Cohen Dollar made its appearance over an exchange office in Richmond; in 1875 the Berg Dollar turned up in Vienna; the Davis Dollar and the Adams Dollar came to light in 1877, in Philadelphia, through the hands of Mr. Haseltine, a dealer in coins in that city; the Dexter Dollar appeared in 1884 in Berlin; the Linderman Dollar was sold with his coins in 1888, doubtless having been in his possession many years; and last, the Rosenthal Dollar made its appearance in 1893 in Alexandria, Va.

A number of pieces were surreptitiously struck from the dies in the year 1858 by some of the employees in the Mint, without the collar, and therefore having plain edges. These were recalled by the Mint officials, and it is asserted that all were destroyed but one, which the Mint retained.

It is evident that the 1804 Dollars were struck at different times, from the varied relative positions of obverse and reverse. Of the seven of which I have impressions, two have the same relative position; two differing from these in position, correspond with each other, but have different reverses; the position of the others all differ. The dies of two reverses were used, — one for the Spiers, Davis, and Rosenthal Dollars, which has greater space between the words STATES OF than the other, which was used for the Mickley, Cohen, Parmelee and Dexter Dollars.

A revised list of the 1804 Dollars is given below, stating the pedigree of each piece, and arranged in the chronological order of their appearance.

I. MINT DOLLAR.

In the cabinet of the U. S. Mint in Philadelphia, since 1840 or 1841.

II. THE STICKNEY DOLLAR.

Received by Mr. Matthew A. Stickney, of Salem, in 1843 from the Mint, in exchange for "*Immune Columbia*" in gold, and other coins. He died in 1894. It is still in possession of his family.

III. THE PARMELEE DOLLAR.

An old lady obtained this Dollar about 1845 from the Mint, and sold it in 1868 to Mr. E. H. Sanford. At the sale of his collection in 1874, Mr. L. G. Parmelee, of Boston, bought it for \$700. When Mr. Parmelee's coins were sold in 1890, it was purchased by Mr. Byron Reed, of Omaha, for \$570. It is reported that it is now owned by the City of Omaha.

IV. THE SPIERS DOLLAR.

Obtained in Philadelphia about the year 1846 by Charles Spiers, M. D., when he was a medical student. He presented it to the "Society of California Pioneers" previous to the year 1885, and it is lodged for safe-keeping in the U. S. Mint in San Francisco. The piece has a plain edge, and weighs 46 grains less than the proper weight of the early American Dollars. Its composition is a combination of tin and copper, the former largely predominating, and it is plated with silver.

V. THE MICKLEY DOLLAR.

This Dollar was received on deposit by the Bank of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, somewhere about the year 1850. The teller who received it was Mr. Henry C. Young, afterwards cashier of the Commonwealth Bank, Philadelphia. Mr. Joseph J. Mickley, of Philadelphia, obtained it from the Bank, and at the sale of his coins in 1867 it was bought by Mr. W. A. Lilliendahl for \$750. He sold it to Mr. Edward Cogan; and from him it passed to Mr. William S. Appleton, of Boston, in exchange for duplicates

of coins from his collection valued at about \$1,000. Mr. Appleton died in 1903. The Dollar is still in the hands of his executors, but with his other American pieces is shortly to be given to the cabinet of the Massachusetts Historical Society, in accordance with the provisions of his will.

VI. MINT DOLLAR.

In the cabinet of the U. S. Mint in Philadelphia. Struck from the dies in 1858; has a plain edge.

VII. THE COHEN DOLLAR.

In 1865 this Dollar was received over the counter in an exchange office in Richmond, kept by Mr. Edward Cohen, afterwards president of the City Bank of Richmond. It passed from him to his uncle, Colonel M. J. Cohen, of Baltimore. At the sale of his coins in 1875, it was purchased by Mr. Henry S. Adams, of Boston, for \$325. At the sale of Mr. Adams's collection in 1876, Mr. L. G. Parmelee, of Boston, bought it for \$500. Mr. H. G. Sampson obtained it from him, and sold it in 1878 to Mr. William B. Wetmore, of New York, for \$625, in whose possession it still remains.

VIII. THE BERG DOLLAR.

Mr. O. H. Berg, of Baltimore, obtained this Dollar in 1875 from Kach & Co., of Vienna. When Mr. Berg's collection of coins was sold in 1883, it was purchased by Mr. Thomas H. Garrett, of Baltimore, for \$740. It remains in possession of Mr. Garrett's estate.

IX. THE DAVIS DOLLAR.

In 1877 Mr. Haseltine, of Philadelphia, sold this piece to Mr. R. Coulton Davis, of Philadelphia. In 1883 Mr. Haseltine re-purchased it and sold it to Mr. George M. Klein, of Vicksburg, for \$1,200. At the sale of his coins in 1888, it brought \$660. Mr. John M. Hale, of Phillipsburg, Pa., obtained it in 1889 for about \$850. Mr. Hale died in 1897. The piece is retained by the family.

X. THE ADAMS DOLLAR.

Mr. Phineas Adams, of Manchester, N. H., paid Mr. Haseltine, of Philadelphia, \$550 for this Dollar about the year 1877. He sold it to Mr. Henry Ahlborn, of Boston, from whom it passed to Mr. J. P. Lyman, of Boston, with a full set of American Dollars, for \$1,800. Mr. Lyman is dead, but his coins remain in the hands of the family.

XI. THE DEXTER DOLLAR.

In 1884 Messrs. S. H. & H. Chapman bought this Dollar at a coin sale of Adolph Weyl in Berlin. At Chapmans' sale in 1885, it was purchased by Mr. J. B. Dexter, of Denver, for \$1,000. Mr. R. G. Parvin obtained it in 1902, from whom Mr. H. G. Brown, of Portland, Oregon, bought it in 1903, — it is said for \$1,500. At the sale of his collection of coins in 1904, it was purchased by Mr. W. F. Dunham, of Chicago, for \$1,100, who is the present owner.

XII. THE LINDERMAN DOLLAR.

Dr. Henry R. Linderman was employed at the Mint in Philadelphia, from 1853 to 1879, in the various offices of clerk, director of the Mint, and superintendent of

all the Mints and Assay offices. Doubtless this Dollar was in his possession for many years. After his death, at the sale of his collection of coins in 1888, it brought \$470, and became the property of Mr. James Ten Eyck, of Albany, who still owns it.

XIII. THE ROSENTHAL DOLLAR.

The existence of this Dollar was first made public in 1893, when it came into the possession of Messrs. Joseph Rosenthal's Sons in Philadelphia, who give its history as follows: A colored man living in Alexandria, Va., owned it many years; his son sold it for \$100 to a gentleman in Alexandria, from whom it passed to Messrs. Rosenthal in 1893, in payment of a debt. Mr. James W. Elsworth, of Chicago, purchased it from them in 1894, and is the present owner.

Brooklyn, N. Y., April, 1905.

JOHN A. NEXSEN.

COINAGE IN CHINA.

IN spite of the obstinate adherence of the Chinese to traditional customs that have come down to them from remote antiquity, Western ideas are making progress even in their coinage, though the movement is very slow. There is perhaps nothing in China that has remained so immovable for centuries as their devotion to the use of the famous "cash," and any effort to displace it by substituting a coin of greater value involves results that are not always evident to those who have not studied the subject. When it is remembered that this ancient coin, intrinsically worth double our cent,—which is in fact only token money,—has a circulating value of only one-twentieth of a cent, and yet is the popular currency of millions of people; and when one realizes that "the men who now support a family in comparative comfort on twelve cents a day, will find themselves reduced to the level of a bare subsistence, if they must carry cents and not mills in their pockets," we begin to get a glimpse of the difficulties involved in the introduction of more valuable coins which shall displace the cash. Some of these difficulties are discussed in a report by Mr. H. B. Morse, statistical secretary of the Imperial Maritime Customs Service of China. In this report he inquires if the country is prepared for this change, and if Chinese industries are ready to provide a living wage in cents for the man who is now paid in mills; and while recognizing the gradual movement toward the use of a popular coin of larger denomination, he is apprehensive of the distress and trouble which will result from its introduction.

In view of this opinion from one whose experience and study of the subject gives weight to his words, it is not surprising to learn that the coinage of silver pieces, approximating in value to those suggested by the International Exchange Commission, has been postponed, and the result of the visit of Prof. Jones, of Cornell University, has not been what its promoters hoped

would be the case. From reports received at the United States Treasury Department, it is evident that, as in the past,

The Chinese are still adverse to change, and any reform must come in the most cautious way. With the Jenks proposal no responsible minister seemed to be willing, or if willing, to be able to take the necessary steps to put it into practical operation. Nor was this wholly unreasonable. They know their own countrymen, and understand that the most essential reforms can be prevented by a few ignorant or prejudiced obstructionists, who have it in their power to misrepresent affairs and so to alarm the imperial government by arousing fear of widespread rebellion. One of the most influential viceroys boldly assailed Professor Jenks's scheme in a memorial to the throne, and secured an edict authorizing him to make trial for one year of a silver coinage in one-tael pieces and fractions thereof, to be circulated at first in his own viceroyalty, and if successful there, to be generally adopted throughout the empire. Professor Jenks's work, the report says, may bear fruit in the future. It was the intention of the imperial authorities to coin imperial dollars at the new mint just completed at Tientsin, but an edict was finally issued forbidding this, and the new mint, which is said by the American in charge of the machinery to be larger and better equipped than any mint in the United States, will now be used for coining these copper cents which are slowly displacing the popular "cash," long the standard of everyday transactions, and which ostensibly equal in value ten of these "cash."

Statistics available from the mints at Tientsin, Wuchang, Foochow and Canton, show that in 1904 there were struck by these mints four million, lacking only about 2,000 twenty-cash pieces; of the ten-cash, the enormous number of 371,916,350, and 1,077,120 of the one-cash in brass. In the ratio of ten to one established between these two coins, the "cent" is overvalued, and so is likely to drive the "cash" out of existence.

We may get some light on the conditions involved, from Japan, where there exists to-day a somewhat similar state of affairs to that which, it is apprehended, will arise in China if the plans of the reformers are carried out. Mr. Kilchi Kaneko, a "Japanese Socialist," tells us that

The condition of the working men in Japan is a most miserable one. They are working generally twelve hours a day, and sometimes fifteen hours. Ordinary workmen receive from twelve to twenty sen (ten to twenty cents) a day; skilled laborers from thirty to forty sen; girls earn from ten to twenty sen, and children only a few sen per day. Even skilled mechanics receive but fifty sen per day; Japanese policemen get only twelve yen per month. Carpenters earn seventy-five sen per day.

While the wages of the laborers in each nation are substantially the same, if these statements are true, the difference between the two countries lies in the fact that at present the Chinese workman can make out to live with comparative comfort on such a meagre income; but the necessities of life in Japan, cheap and abundant as they are claimed to be, have yet advanced in so great a degree that the Japanese workman can no longer enjoy them. The boasted results of Western civilization have not brought unmixed happiness to the land of the Mikado.

THE MONTREAL INDIAN MEDAL.

[A CONSIDERATION OF THE REV. DR. W. M. BEAUCHAMP'S THEORY AS TO ITS PROBABLE DATE.]

In 1883, I wrote a paper under the above title, for the twenty-fifth anniversary of the American Numismatic and Archaeological Society. In this paper, which appeared in the Society's transactions for that year as well as in this *Journal*,¹ I claimed the Montreal Indian Medal to have been the one presented at Oswego, in July, 1761, by Sir William Johnson to the Indian chiefs who were present with him at the capitulation of Montreal in 1760, — classing it, in fact, as a Conquest Medal, with reasons therefor.

This classification remained undisputed until 1903, when the Rev. W. M. Beauchamp, S. T. D., in a monograph on the metallic ornaments of the New York Indians, stated that "a very interesting series of medals was expressly designed for Indian use, *but the exact date is in question*."² He then quotes the description of the medal as it appears in Leroux.³ For convenience I repeat the description of the piece as given in the *Journal* from the example in my collection: — *Obv.* MONTREAL; DCF in exergue stamped in a sunken ellipse. A view of a walled town with a body of water in the foreground, into which a small stream flows. There are five church spires ranged along the middle of the town, and a flag displaying St. George's cross to the right. *Rev.* Plain. ONONDAGOS engraved in capitals across the field, and the name *Tekahonwaghse* in script letters at the top. Some one has at a later time, scratched across the lower part, with a sharp-pointed instrument, in three lines, *Taken from an Indian | chief in the AMERICAN | WAR 1761*. Size 45 mm.

In this most learned and exhaustive monograph, the Rev. Dr. Beauchamp describes and illustrates, among others, the reverses of five of the Montreal Indian Medals, with many historical notes and references to the Indian chiefs whose names they bear.⁴ Further, after quoting a number of arguments upholding my theory, from a letter I wrote him when I learned that he intended to combat it, he continues: "All of Mr. McLachlan's arguments have been stated, and due weight given to them and to the rank of their author, from whom the writer *is compelled to differ*, though with some hesitation."⁵ In another place he states: "Thus, while it would be unwise to say that the true date is not 1761, there is but a presumption in favor of that date."⁶ From these and other inferences throughout the eight pages devoted to this matter, we gather that Dr. Beauchamp is firmly convinced that the Montreal Indian Medal was issued during the War of Independence of the United States.

Dr. Beauchamp's arguments in favor of his theory may be briefly stated as follows: 1st. It is not proved that the medal was made in New York; Montreal, at both dates, had the best of silversmiths. 2nd. If made in New York then, the city was in British hands during the greater part of the latter period. 3rd. Two medals relating to the conquest, inscribed CANADA SUBDUED and THE CONQUEST OF CANADA COMPLETED, respectively, may have been given by Johnson in 1761. 4th. The inscription AMERICAN WAR 1761 scratched on the reverse of one of the medals, is an evident error, as there was no American war at that time. It should be 1781. 5th. The

¹ Vol. XVIII, pp. 84, *et seq.*

² New York State Museum Bulletin 73, page 58. Albany, 1903.

³ Le Medaillier du Canada, page 157.

⁴ Museum Bulletin 73, pages 58-64, plates 26 and 33.

⁵ *Ibid.*, page 60.

⁶ *Ibid.*, page 60.

spelling ONONDAGOS is not that of Johnson but of a later period. 6th. It is impossible that Johnson could have the twenty-three medals he mentions, all ready engraved for distribution at the time stated. 7th. Some of the names occurring on the medals are attached to land treaties entered into with the State of New York. 8th. Johnson mentions that there were several medals for Oneida chiefs, but none of the Montreal medals are inscribed with the name of this tribe, while none of its members took the part of the British against the United States.

In taking up these arguments in detail, I shall try and show that none are strongly favorable to the War of Independence theory.

1st. As to the medal not having been made in New York. As the Montreal Indian Medal and the New York Peace Medal¹ both bear the same maker's initials, we can safely conclude that they were both made in the same city. Now it does not seem likely that in 1764² the commander-in-chief of the British forces in North America, whose headquarters were at New York, would order a New York medal from Montreal, then just ceded to Britain, and whose people were practically foreigners in language and customs.

2nd. Although New York was in the hands of the British during the greater part of the War of Independence, the communications between it and Canada were so interrupted as to make it unsafe for the conveyance of packages of value. Then the route by sea being almost as long as that to England, where much better medals could be secured, it is altogether unlikely that any medals for distribution among the Indians were made in New York during the Revolution. To this I may add that the view of Montreal on the medal is so different from its actual appearance, as was shown in my paper in the *Journal*,³ that it is difficult to believe the piece could have been made by an engraver of that city, of sufficient standing to receive such an order; while on the other hand, the initials it bears, as has been shown in various instances, are found on medals, etc., the attribution of which to a New York workman has not been disputed to my recollection, although his name has not yet been discovered, and which seems to be confirmed by the association of "N. YORK" with D C F on the Peace Medal of 1764. (See Betts, 510).

3rd. The two Conquest Medals mentioned by Dr. Beauchamp as likely to have been the ones distributed by Johnson, were struck by the "Society for Promoting Arts and Commerce," for a very different purpose. As far as I have been able to ascertain, no impression of either of these medals can be traced to Indian ownership, while all known examples among Canadian or United States collectors have come from England.

4th. Even if the date 1761, scratched on one of the medals, should be proved wrong, and 1781 substituted, that would not be presumptive evidence against the conquest dating; whereas, if correct, it would be incontrovertible evidence in its favor.

5th. Spelling of Indian names in those days was governed by no established rules. Hence we may conclude that the official superintending the making of the medal saw no wrong in substituting his own spelling of the names for that of Johnson's, or, what is more likely, allowed the engraver to follow his own sweet will. To whom shall we attribute the evident error on the medals bearing the name MOHICAN? It appears to have been that of the engraver. Then why not attribute the difference in the spelling of ONONDAGOS to him also?

¹ American Colonial History Illustrated by Contemporary Medals. See Nos. 509, 510, and foot-note, page 227. Betts, New York, 1894.

² This is the date on the "New York Peace Medal."

³ See p. 86 of the article cited.

6th. Johnson was Indian Commissioner, and his intimate intercourse with the Iroquois no doubt led to personal relationship with most if not all the chiefs. There does not seem to be any difficulty about his sending to General Amherst a list of the names of those chiefs who accompanied him to Montreal, when asking that medals should be given them, or having the medals ready for delivery nine months later.

7th. It is a theory much more worthy of belief that a number of young warrior chiefs, who were awarded medals for a campaign in 1760, should, thirty or forty years later, enter into land treaties with the State of New York, than that loyalist chiefs of the War of Independence, after the treatment meted out to such by the United States, should have any lands in New York to sign away.

8th. To the point that none of the Oneida medals mentioned by Johnson exist, it may be answered, that, as is recorded, when Johnson called the chiefs of that tribe together, none of those entitled to the medals were present, and there is no record of a later distribution. Even if presented afterwards, we can safely conclude that chiefs who neglected to come when first called did not consider the medals worthy of preservation, and exchanged them for fire-water.

A strong piece of evidence in favor of the 1761 date — in which Dr. Beauchamp unwittingly concurs when he classes the medal as a metallic ornament of the New York State Indians — is the fact that nearly all existing specimens have come from that State. The only exception is the one from London, England, which is accounted for by the visit of the recipient to that city. Had the medals been given for participation on the side of the British in the War of Independence, a description of them would have been out of place in Dr. Beauchamp's work, as they would have pertained to Canadian Indians exclusively.

Still, Dr. Beauchamp's claim might have some foundation were there no British Indian Medal that could be properly assigned to the War of Independence. Now, not only do numerous examples exist of such a medal, but some are accompanied by documents fixing their connection with that period. In one of these documents it is stated that the "great medal" was given at Montreal in 1778 to the great chief who is named therein, for "fidelity, zeal and attachment." There can be no dispute about the identity of this medal, as it is described as "great," that is, three inches in diameter. There were also smaller medals, of two sizes, of the same design, for sub-chiefs. There is only one size of the Montreal medal. These medals, which bear a portrait of George III, are found among the Indians of Canada and the West as far as British influence extended at that time, being especially plentiful among the loyalist Iroquois and the numerous tribes of Michigan and Wisconsin, while none occur among the New York State Indians.

In conclusion, let me repeat that no other medal is known which will fit in with that given by Johnson; that no Indian incident connected with the War of Independence centres around Montreal except the great meeting of Western tribes in 1778, when Haldimand presented the "great medal." It is altogether unlikely that two medals of different design and place of manufacture would be presented on the same occasion. Therefore, notwithstanding Dr. Beauchamp's arguments, we are fully convinced that the Montreal Indian Medal should be dated from the conquest.

R. W. MC LACHLAN.

¹ See "The Fourteenth Annual Report of the Bureau of Ethnology," Washington, 1896, part I, plate III, page 45; also in this *Journal*, Vol. XXXI, page 8.

MEDALS OF THE GRAND ARMY.

XXI.

(Continued from p. 70, Vol. XXXIX.)

108. Obverse, Seal of the District of Columbia, similar to that on the medal struck for the 26th National Encampment (see *Journal*, XXXVII: p. 82), but the motto JUSTITIA, etc., is lacking. Legend, DEPARTMENT OF THE POTOMAC G. A. R. In exergue, in two lines, WASHINGTON | D. C. Reverse, Within a wreath of laurel, open at the top, the stems united at the base and tied with a bow of ribbon, is the circular device and motto of the Grand Army as already described, — a sailor and soldier clasping hands before Columbia, with the usual accessories. No legend. Edge ring, red ribbon on which are two pioneer's axes crossed in saltire, stamped in gold. Bar, oblong, lettered WASHINGTON; a semi-circle of rays above with 1892. Reverse, Plain. Copper, bronzed. Size, 21 nearly. Length of bar, 24.

109. Planchet in the form of a Greek cross, the badge of the Sixth Army Corps. Obverse, Plain, with bevelled edges; no inscription. Reverse, On the upper bar, 1862, and on the lower bar, 1865. Edge ring and ribbon of red, white and blue. Bar, Oblong, with an inscription in three lines: ASSOCIATE SURVIVORS | 6TH ARMY CORPS | WASHINGTON, D. C. 1893 On its top in a semi-circular tablet is a shell, the point upwards, and surrounded by rays; a small floral ornament at the junction of the ends of the semi-circle with the oblong. Copper, bronzed. Size 22. Length of bar, 24. This is rare, only 100 impressions having been struck.

110. Obverse, A combination of the badges of the several corps of the Army of the Cumberland; a five-pointed star, filled with dots, the emblem of the Twentieth Corps; on its centre an equilateral triangle, the badge of the Fourth Corps, and in the centre of the last an acorn, the point upward, — that of the Fourteenth Corps. This device forms the badge of the Society of the Army of the Cumberland. (See obverse of No. 37, *Journal*, XXXVII: p. 120.) No legend. Reverse, Inscription in seven lines, the first three curving downward from the upper rim, the fourth horizontal, and the others curving in the opposite direction to the first three. SOUVENIR 1889 | CHICK-AMAUGA | WAUHATCHIE | CHATTANOOGA | LOOKOUT MOUNTAIN | MISSION RIDGE | ARMY OF THE CUMBERLAND It is hardly necessary to say that the names are those of five brilliant actions in which the Army was engaged. Edge ring, red ribbon. Bar, An oblong tablet on which CHATTANOOGA (the place of meeting), surmounting a circular tablet, on the upper part is SEPT and on the lower, 1889 The portions of the circle which are not covered by the central tablet are filled with perpendicular lines. Reverse, Plain. Copper, bronzed. Size 20. Length of bar, 24. Struck for the nineteenth Reunion of the Society.

111. Obverse, On the field is a view of an hexagonal building, placed on a glacis and having four casemates on each face; from the centre of the roof rises a superstructure, its faces pierced with loop-holes for riflemen, and from its top the national flag is flying. Legend, above, in two lines, curving to the edge, • RAILROAD DEFENCE • | BLOCK HOUSE | the last two words separated by the flag-staff; and below, completing the circle, ARMY OF THE CUMBERLAND Under the glacis 1864 Edge ring, and a ribbon of red, white and blue. Bar, Oblong, lettered 115TH O. V. I. (Ohio Vol. Inf'y.) Copper, bronzed. Size 20. Length of bar, 24.

112. Obverse, Clothed bust, in citizen's dress, in profile to left, of Gen. John Palmer, who was Commander-in-chief of the G. A. R. in 1892. No name or place of issue appears on the medal, which, as already mentioned, is not uncommon on the series under notice, and greatly detracts from its historic value to the general collector. Indeed, aside from the information given in these papers, which has in many cases been obtained from the engraver of the dies, it would be impossible for any student of these pieces—a series unique in the numismatic annals of any country—to find anywhere in print the desired information. Legend, above, ALBANY N. Y. BATTALION G. A. R. and below, completing the circle, ESCORT TO COM'DR IN CHIEF The legend is on a slightly raised and deadened circle, separated from the field by small dots. Reverse, Plain, for engraving, but with a milled edge. Edge ring, buff ribbon and bar, as on 108. Copper, bronzed. Size 24; length of bar, 24. If the bar were removed, it would be almost impossible to identify this medal.

113. Obverse, Clothed bust, in citizen's dress, nearly in profile to right, but slightly turned towards the observer, of Albert D. Shaw, whose name appears beneath, in the legend. Legend, • DEPARTMENT COMMANDER • (and the name). The legend is on a slightly raised border, separated by a circle from the field. Reverse, The device of the Grand Army—Columbia, a sailor, soldier, etc., as heretofore described, but on a larger scale than usual, so that the flags, the eagle behind the sailor, and the figures of the children are all clearly brought out. The usual motto, GRAND • ARMY • etc., on a narrow and deadened circle, surrounds the device, outside of which is the legend, WITH COMPLIMENTS OF THE CITIZENS OF UTICA, N. Y. ★ Clasp and ring, white ribbon and double bar. On the upper bar, which has an ornate top and floreated ends, is the inscription in three lines, G. A. R. | 34TH ANNUAL ENCAMPMENT | UTICA, N. Y. The lower bar has curving ends, and is lettered in two lines, SOUVENIR | 1900. Copper, bronzed. Size 22. Length of upper bar, 26; of lower bar, 24.

114. A circular planchet, nearly surrounded by a wreath of laurel, the leaves being cut to their outer edges, giving an irregular outline; a bow of ribbon ties the branches at the base. Obverse, Bust of John S. Koster, in uniform, nearly facing, but slightly turning to observer's right. Legend, above, DEP'T. OF N. Y. G • A • R and below, completing the circle, • ROCHESTER, JUNE 14-15-'04 • Reverse, Plain, save that the name of the makers appears in very small letters, in two lines, curving in opposite directions, THE WHITEHEAD & HOAG CO. | NEWARK, N. J. Two edge rings and chains unite it to three bars, also united to each other by chains; the upper bar is surmounted by a semicircle on which is a radiated eagle with expanded wings; this bar has ornate ends and is lettered DELEGATE; the other two bars are oblong, suggestive of "shoulder-straps," the central one lettered 38TH ANNUAL and the other ENCAMPMENT A red ribbon falls behind the medal from the upper bar. Copper, bronzed, dead finish. Size of medal, 24; length of upper bar, 24, and of the others, 21. The workmanship of this piece is not up to the standard of those above described, and the name of the Commander does not appear on the medal; it may not have been an official issue, as those we have seen have an advertisement pasted on the back of the ribbon.

115. Planchet cut to the outline of a large portrait bust of Gen. John C. Black; he is represented in citizen's dress, the head bare, the face nearly in profile to the right. On the truncation, in small letters, S. D. CHILDS & CO. CHICAGO; beneath, at each of the lower corners, are rings which support the word STAFF, the letters also

cut out and united by a long and narrow bar, on which NATIONAL. Reverse, Plain. A curious effect is given by a ring on the top of the head, by which it is linked to an ornate bar of irregular outline; on its centre, the device of the Grand Army in its lettered circle; BOSTON on a ribbon above, and AUG. on the left, 1904 on the right, in an oblong tablet partly concealed by the circle. Struck for the National Encampment held at Boston in 1904. Again there is nothing to show who is represented. Copper, finished in light bronze. Greatest length, 36; width, 32. Length of bar, 34.

C. P. NICHOLS.

Springfield, June, 1905.

MEDAL OF PRES. ROOSEVELT.

A FINE medal has recently been struck in Philadelphia in honor of Pres. Roosevelt. The medal is solid bronze (not copper), and its design departs somewhat from the conventional style of previous medals, in that the milling is very slightly raised above the field, — so slightly as to be hardly perceptible, — both on the obverse and reverse; the general effect produced is quite similar to some of the recent French medals, and in many respects is a great advance on all previous issues by American medallists, save perhaps the later ones published by the American Numismatic and Archaeological Society.

The obverse shows a portrait of the President, in citizen's dress, and in profile to the left; THEODORE on the left, ROOSEVELT on the right. The reverse has two branches, combined or interlaced, one of oak, the other of olive, extending from the base, upward, to the right; the stems are tied with a ribbon, one end floating upward, the other falling to the edge of the piece. On the field at the left, the inscription in six lines, INAUGURATED | PRESIDENT | OF THE | UNITED STATES | MARCH 4 | 1905. Near the lower left edge, in very small letters, JOS. K. DAVIDSON'S and separated by the ribbon from the preceding, SONS

This well-executed piece is the first we have seen from the new firm, and we congratulate them on having achieved a marked improvement over the ordinary medals of the last decade. Its size is 28, and the weight nearly two ounces.

AGAWAM.

A NELSON MEDAL.

AFTER the victory over the French fleet won by Admiral Lord Nelson, in Aboukir Bay, August, 1798, known as the "Battle of the Nile," the British Government presented him with a gold medal commemorating the action. In the course of time this fell into the hands of Sir Richard H. Wyatt, and was highly valued by him. At the recent sale of his art treasures at Grosvenor Place, London, this medal was sold for \$720 (£145).

THE MEDALS, JETONS, AND TOKENS ILLUSTRATIVE OF THE SCIENCE OF MEDICINE.

BY DR. HORATIO R. STORER, NEWPORT, R. I.

[Continued from Vol. XXXIX, page 77.]

The following new medals belong with previous sections.

IV. SOUTH AMERICA. B. 3. *Medical Societies.*

Santiago, Chile. Hygienic Exposition, 1901.

2170. *Obverse.* An agricultural engine upon a farm; at right, a corn stalk; in background, buildings. Above: SANTIAGO DE CHILE MAH. | 1^{re} PREMIO

Reverse. Two women bathing three children. Exergue, upon a band: ESPOCICION DE HIGIENE

Gold. Engravings are in the Boston collection, from Messrs. Schering & Glatz, of New York.

V. UNITED STATES. A. *Personal.*

2171. Dr. Benjamin F. Stephenson (1822-1871), of Rock Creek, Ill.

Besides Nos. 476 and 522a, there is

Obverse. Civilian bust, facing and slightly to left. Inscription: DR. B. F. STEPHENSON FOUNDER OF THE GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC Exergue, a quadrangular point.

Reverse. The badge of the Grand Army. At left, a sailor with cutlass and cannon; at right, a soldier with tent and cannon. Inscription: 31ST NATIONAL ENCAMPMENT G. A. R. BUFFALO, N. Y. AUG. 1897 Exergue, three stars.

Bronze. 23. 37mm. Edge of obverse milled; of reverse beaded. In the Boston collection.

B. 2. *Hospitals.*

Army Nurses, Grand Army of the Republic. Boston, 1904.

Besides No. 1666, there is

2172. *Obverse.* In centre of ornate shield, a gold medallion with Geneva cross in red enamel. Inscription: NATIONAL | CONVENTION.

Reverse. Blank.

Bronze. 19 x 24. 30 x 35mm. With bar and ribbon. Upon bar, Faneuil Hall, Boston, and a glory of three flags; over top, upon ribbon scroll: 'BOSTON 1904' Upon yellow ribbon: A N (Army Nurses) in gold. Nichols, *The Journal*, Oct., 1904, p. 49, No. 85.

VI. GREAT BRITAIN. C. *Medical Events.*

Convalescence of the Prince of Wales from typhoid, 1872.

Besides Nos. 1192-4 and 1510, there is

2173. *Obverse.* Within beaded ellipse, an armorial shield below scroll. Inscription: Visit of her Majesty the Queen to St Paul's Cathedral. Exergue: 1872 between semi-upright bands, upon which: DIEU ET — MON DROIT

Reverse. Above, a folded band, upon which: DATE | GRATIAS—DOMINO Within field: NATIONAL | THANKSGIVING | FOR THE | RECOVERY OF | HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS | THE PRINCE OF | WALES | FEB. — XXVII (enclosing the three feathers of his crest.)

Silver. Elliptical. 22 x 12. 35 x 18mm. Surmounted by crown, loop, and ring. This is the "Royal private badge," and is excessively rare. In the Boston collection.

VIII. BELGIUM. A. *Personal.*

Ernest Solvay (), of Brussels.

Besides Nos. 1794-6, see the following.

Dr. André Vésale (1514-1594), of Brussels and Paris.

Besides Nos. 1984-1999, there is

2174. *Obverse*. Bust, to left, in high relief. Behind: CH. V. D. STAPPEN. Inscription: ' ANDREAS ' VESALIUS ' | OCYUS JUCUNDE ET TUTO '

Reverse. Within branches: EN | SOUVENIR DU | CONGRES INTERNATIONAL DES | PHYSIOLOGISTES | TENU A BRUXELLES | AUX | INSTITUTS SOLVAY Inscription: HOM-
MAGE ' A ' ANDRE ' VESALE ' 30 AOUT ' 1904 ' 3 ' SEPT^{BR}

Gold (1), silver (31), bronze (321). 32. 50mm. Struck by P. Fisch. Méd. Hist. de Belgique, p. 162, No. 100, pl. XL, fig. of obverse.

B. 1. *Medical Colleges.*

Instituts Solvay. Brussels. Physiological Department of the University. Besides Nos. 1974-5 and 2013, see the preceding.

B. 3. *Medical Societies.*

International Congress of Physiologists. Brussels. 1904. See No. 2174.

The regular sequence is now resumed.

IX. DENMARK. A. *Personal* (continued).

Dr. Adam Wilhelm Hauch (1755-1838), of Copenhagen. Founder of the Veterinary School at Wiborg.

2175. *Obverse*. Head, to right. Beneath: CHRISTENSEN F. Inscription: ADAM WILHELM — HAUCH. | F. XXVI SEPTBR. | MDCCLV | —D. XXVI FEBRVAR | MDCCCXXXVIII.

Reverse. A diademed female, with wreath in right hand, and in left an inverted spear. Legend: DYDEN ALENE — ADLER (Virtue alone ennobles.)

Silver, bronze. 28. 45mm. Duisburg, Suppl. I, p. 11, DLXIXa; *Ibid.*, Cat., p. 63, No. 721; Bergsöe, p. 155, No. 1055; *Num. Circular*, Sept., 1899, p. 3550. In the Boston collection.

Dr. P ab Kosel(), of .

2176. *Obverse*. Head.

Reverse. Altar and urn, upon which: PULVIS & VAPOR

Silver. Zschiesche and Koder Cat., Oct., 1891, No. 2570.

Henrik Nicolai Kroeyer (1799-1870), of Copenhagen. Studied medicine. Naturalist.

2177. *Obverse*. Bust, facing. Beneath: H. CONRADSEN Inscription: HN EAAXEE—EIIAPTAN KOZMEI

Reverse. Within olive branches: OABIOZ | OETIZ THE | ISTOPIAZ | EEZE MAΘHZIN | THE AΘANATOT | KAΘOPQN | ΦTEPEZ | KOZEMON | AFHPQ Beneath: MDCCCLXX

Bronze. 51. 80mm. Bergsöe, p. 159, No. 1066.

Hans Christian Oersted (1777-1851), of Copenhagen. Pharmacist. Discoverer of Electro-Magnetism.

2178. *Obverse*. Head, to left. Upon shoulder: POSCH F. 1822.

Reverse. PROF. OERSTAEDT (incused.)

Iron. 53. 83mm. Rudolphi, p. 118, No. 491; Kluyskens, II, p. 261; Duisburg, p. 215, DLXXIII; *Ibid.*, Cat., p. 63, No. 726.

2179. *Obverse*. O., sitting at table, with electro-magnetic apparatus. Beneath: P. PETERSEN F. Inscription: HANS CHRISTIAN ORSTED

Reverse. An angel with torch unveils a female figure seated upon a rock, and rests right hand upon a globe. Upon base: H. CONRADSEN Inscription: ELEKTRO MAGNETISME — AARDEN I NATUREN — ELEKTROCHEMIE. Exergue: 1820. F(OEDT): 1777 D(OED): 1851

Silver, bronze. 33. 52mm. Duisburg, Suppl. I, p. 11, DLXXIII, 2; *Ibid.*, Cat., p. 63, No. 727; Bergsöe, p. 172, No. 1110.

2180. *Obverse*. Bust, to left. Beneath neck: P. BATZ Inscription: HANS CHRISTIAN OERSTED | FOEDT D. 14. AUG. 1777 * DOED D. 9. MARTS 1851.

Reverse. Beneath a radiant star: UD AF JUPITERS HAAND | REV FRANKLIN LYNET; MEN OERSTED | FORMED DEN STRAFFENDE ILD | OM TIL TANKERNES LYN. | TUSINDE LYNDUB GAA | SOM LOENBUD NU OVER LANDE, | FRA HVER SITTRENDE TRAAD | KLINGER. OERSTED. DIT NARN! | V. BERGSOE. | — At left: C. D.

Silver. 28. 46mm. Bergsøe, p. 172, No. 1111.

Pfaff. See under Germany.

Dr. Martin Vahl (1749-1804), of Copenhagen.

2181. *Obverse*. Bust, to left, with queue. Upon shoulder: GIANELLI. Inscription: MARTINUS VAHL PROFESSOR BOTANICES HAFNIAE. Exergue: NAT. D. X. OCT. MDCCXLIX | DEN. D. XXIV. DEC. MDCCCIV.

Reverse. Two draped females dancing; the one with a branch and fruit, and the other with pencil and basket. At left, upon the ground: M. F. Legend: TE VARIIS SCRIBENT IN FLORIBUS HORAE Exergue: AMICI | F. C.

Bronze. 32. 50mm. Duisburg, DLIV. In the Boston collection.

Weber. See under Germany.

B. 1. Medical Colleges.

Royal Veterinary School.

2182. *Obverse*. A horse drinking from a fountain. Before him, a post encircled by a serpent. No inscription.

Reverse. Blank.

Tin. 12. 18mm. Bergsøe, *loc. cit.*, p. 16, pl. IV, No. 115; *Ibid.*, Danske Foreningstegn (Jetons of Danish Societies), p. 117, No. 755.

University of Copenhagen. Medical Students.

2183. *Obverse*. A skull and crossed femora. Beneath, a cross between two large dots. Legend: MEMENTO MORI

Reverse. DEN ER DIG VIS (It [death] for you is sure.) | * | .

8. 11mm. By S. Lindahl. (1889.) *Ibid.*, p. 141, No. 989.

2184. *Obverse*. Skull and crossed femora beneath a cross. Below, two large points. No legend.

Reverse. As preceding.

8. 11mm. *Ibid.*, p. 141, No. 990.

B. 2. Hospitals.

Maternity Hospital. Copenhagen.

2185. *Obverse*. Bust, nude, to right, within serpent circle. Inscription: FRIDERICUS V · D · G · REX · DAN · NORV · VAND · GOTH | N · 31 MAR · MDCCXXIII * D · 14 JAN MDCLXVI

Reverse. A female, seated, to left, holds naked infant. At her right, a child takes cup to a reclining female. At left, three children. At right, erect, the staff of Aesculapius. Behind, a temple. Above, on band: VETAT MORI Exergue: D. I. ADZER. FEC:

Gold, silver. 34. 55mm. Suhm, *loc. cit.*, p. 767, No. 176a, pl. XX, fig. 2.

B. 3. Medical Societies.

International Tuberculosis Conference. Copenhagen, 1904.

2186. *Obverse*. Military bust, facing, with several decorations. Upon left edge: TONY SZIRMAI Inscription: CHRISTIAN IX. — KONGE · AF · DENMARK

Reverse. At right, a palm branch and antique lamp, the handle of which is a drinking serpent. Within field, at left: CONFERENCE | INTERNATIONALE | CONTRE LA | TUBERCULOSE A | COPENHAGUE | 26-29 | MAI | 1904

Bronze. 32. 50mm. In the Boston collection.

Royal Veterinary Society.

2187. *Obverse*. Head (of Dr. P. C. Abildgaard), to left. Beneath: CONRADSEN
Above: ARTIS VETERINARIAE Below: ΑΡΙΣΤΟ—ΤΕΛΗΣ Inscription: SOCIETAS REGIA
HAFNIENSIS CULTORUM ATQUE FAUTORUM

Reverse. Oak branches, crossed and tied by ribbon.

Silver. 33. 52mm. Bergsöe, Danske Med. og Jetons, p. 28, No. 147.

C. Medical Events.

Convalescence of Frederick IV. 1710.

2188. *Obverse*. An irradiated five-pointed star. In circle at centre: F 4 in monogram, crowned. Upon the rays: DANIE. — ITALIA — SAXON. — BORUSS. — SCANIA. Legend: IMMOTA AT NON SINE MOTV. Exergue: OMNIBVS · ILLVXIT | A · MDCCIX ·

Reverse. DEO | SOSPITORI | PRO SALVTE | AVGVSTISSIMI REGIS | PRINCIPIS OPTIMI | VOTA SOLVTA | ITERVMQ: FACTA | CAL · IANVARI | A · M · DCCX · | W · F ·

Gold, silver. Suhm, *loc. cit.*, p. 646, No. 135a, pl. XV, No. 4.

Do. of Frederick VI. 1822.

2189. *Obverse*. Bust, to right. CONRADSEN. Inscription; FREDERIK DEN SIETE DANMARKS KONGE

Reverse. Flaming altar, on which the staff of Aesculapius. Inscription: SALVO REGE SALVA PATRIA · Exergue, MDCCCXXII.

Silver. 29. 47mm. Bergsöe, Danske Med. og Jetons, p. 18, No. 93. In the Government collection.

Do. of Frederick VI. 1833.

2190. *Obverse*. Head, to right. Beneath: c. c. (Christen Christensen.) Inscription: FREDERIK DEN SIETE — FOLKETS FADER

Reverse. A female with mural crown, pouring libation upon altar, on whose side is staff of Aesculapius, erect. Behind it, upon tall pedestal, statue of Hygieia feeding her serpent. Inscription: KONGESTADENS — GLÆDE (The joy of the royal city.) Exergue: DEN 3. AUGUST | 1833

Silver, bronze. 22. 35mm. Upon convalescence of the King at Louisenlund after a dangerous illness. *Ibid.*, p. 22, No. 110. In the Government, Boston, and University of Pa. collections, and that of Major C. P. Nichols, of Springfield, Mass.

2191. *Obverse*. Head, to left. Beneath: ALF JACOBSON Inscription: DEM KOENIG FRIEDERICH VI VON DÆNEMARK DEM ALLGELIEBTEN GEW VET.

Reverse. WIEDERHERSTELLUNG | DES | ALLERTHEUERSTEN | BESTEN KOENIGS | LOUISENLUND 1833. | — | NEU PLATINA

34. 53mm. Poorly executed. Devegge, 26; Hess, *Frankfurter Münzfreund*, 5, 1895, No. 1987. In the Boston collection.

F. 3. Pharmacists.

A. Benzon, Swan Apotheket (1870).

2192. *Obverse*. Within a beaded circle: 350 (incused.) Inscription: ALFRED BENZON | SVANE APOTHEK | OESTER GADE N° 71 | * KJOEBENHAVN (Copenhagen) *

Reverse. MEDICINAL OG PARFUME HANDEL | LABORATORIUM | FOR CHEMISKIE | OG | PHARMACEUTISKE | PRAEPARATER | EN GROS | ET EN | DETAIL¹

Brass. 14. 23mm. In the Boston collection.

2193. *Obverse*. Between parallel lines, in first of which is a serpent: AB in monogram. Above: SVANE APOTHEK | ALFRED BENZON | * Below: * | KIOBENHAVN | OSTERGADE 18

Reverse. Within a circle, AB in monogram, with serpent. Beneath, a swan, to left. Above: OSTERGADES MATERIALHANDEL (drugs at retail.) Below: SVANE APO-

¹ Mr. Benzon had the first wholesale and retail drug store in Denmark.

THEK (at wholesale.) Inscription: ALFRED BENZON^s | KEMISKE FABRIKER Exergue: KIOBENHAVN

Brass. 18. 28mm. Bergsøe, Danske Foreningstegn, p. 140, No. 987.

Chr. Hansen, Krone Apotheket (1887).

2194. *Obverse.* Under a large crown, the staff of Aesculapius, recumbent.

Reverse. Blank.

Copper. 14. 20mm. *Ibid.*, p. 140, No. 984.

P. Hempels (1887).

2195. *Obverse.* Love, with Neptune's trident, riding upon a dolphin, to left.

Exergue: P. H. (From a bas-relief by Thorwaldsen.)

Reverse. Blank.

Copper. 14. 20mm. *Ibid.*, p. 140, No. 982.

V. Horn, Hof Apotheket (1887).

2196. *Obverse.* An elephant, to right, with raised trunk, and tower upon back.

Inscription: * KGL HOF * | APOTHEK.

Reverse. Blank.

Copper. 14. 20mm. *Ibid.*, p. 140, No. 983.

N. D. A. Møller, St. Paul's Apotheket (1887).

2197. *Obverse.* The staff of Aesculapius, recumbent. Inscription: ST. | PAUL

Reverse. Blank.

Copper. 14. 20mm. *Ibid.*, p. 140, No. 985.

C. Petersen, Christianshavn's Apotheket (1887).

2198. *Obverse.* A leaping unicorn, to right. Under his forelegs: CP in monogram.

Reverse. Blank.

Copper. 14. 20mm. *Ibid.*, p. 140, No. 980.

K. T. Petersen. Gammel Torrs (Old Market) Apotheket (1887).

2199. *Obverse.* Three towers (the arms of Copenhagen). Beneath: G. T. A.

Reverse. Blank.

Copper. 14. 20mm. *Ibid.*, p. 140, No. 981.

Mineral Springs and Other Health Resorts.

Island of Fanøe, Denmark.

2200. *Obverse.* KUR- | HOTELLET | FANO

Reverse. 100 | OERE

Silver. 19. 28mm. Edges milled. In the Boston collection.

2201. As preceding, save the numeral is 25.

Silver. 16. 23mm. Edges milled. In the Boston collection.

2202. As preceding, save 10.

Silver. 14. 20mm. Edges milled. In the Boston collection.

2203. *Obverse.* As preceding.

Reverse. PERSONAL

Brass. 13. 18mm. Edges milled. In the Boston collection.

Hellebek (Island of Seeland), Denmark.

2204. *Obverse.* Trees and a building, on gable of which: HELLEBÆK KRO.

Reverse. HELLEBÆK KRO. | FRANTZ | OLSEN | * BADEANSTALT *

Brass. 16. 24mm. Edges milled. Bergsøe, Danske Medailler og Jetons, p. 194, No. 1220. In the Boston collection.

MEDALLIC PORTRAITS OF JESUS CHRIST.

SEVERAL communications have recently appeared in a Boston paper, relative to the authenticity of the reputed portraits of the Saviour, and their probable origin; these are usually traced to an engraved profile bust, which is said to have been cut on an emerald with a somewhat romantic history, but having no better foundation than the "pious tales" concerning the precious relics treasured from medieval days in many of the Continental churches. Mr. G. F. Hill has published an interesting paper on the subject of their origin in the *Reliquary and Illustrated Archaeologist* (X: pp. 173-193), illustrated with a plate of thirteen figures; ten of these figures are copies of portraits on medals of the fifteenth century, the earliest of which is by Matteo d' Pasti (about 1460). Several other works are published for purposes of comparison.

"The most interesting type," says the *American Journal of Archaeology*, "resembles a painting in Berlin, attributed to Jan van Eyck. Probably the painting is the real original of the type, in spite of the legend [mentioned above] that the medallions are copied from a head engraved on an emerald sent by Bajazet II to Pope Innocent VIII (1484-1492). The head of St. Paul, which forms the obverse of one of the medallions, is of Italian origin, and was associated with the head of Christ because Bajazet was reported to have sent the Pontiff a portrait of that Apostle as well as one of Christ."

In a later issue of the same publication (pp. 260-269, with seven figures), similar medals of the sixteenth century are discussed. The miniature in the possession of Prince Trivulzio may be a copy of a medal, but not of any of the extant medals that exhibit the same type. The rather rude cast medals, with Hebrew inscriptions, were doubtless intended for use as charms or amulets.

These valuable papers seem to establish with a good degree of certainty the origin of the conventional portraits; the folly of the reputed claim to authenticity for the lapidary's work was keenly shown in an article in a recent issue of the *Boston Transcript*.

FIND OF ROMAN COINS.

M. ADRIEN BLANCHET, in the *Revue Numismatique*, 1904, page 461, records the finding at Nanterre of a coarse, red vase, containing 1,968 denarii and antoniniani, ranging through a long series of emperors and empresses from Albinus to Gallienus. The treasure was evidently buried in the early years of the reign of Gallienus, when German hordes were devastating Gaul.

A NEW COIN OF CARAUSIUS.

THE coins of Carausius, who established in Britain a quasi-independent government for six years during the reign of Diocletian and Maximian, are of peculiar interest. Sir John Evans, in the *Numismatic Chronicle*, 1904 (pp. 136-143), describes a type in his possession hitherto unknown, with GENIO BRITANNI(AE) and a figure of the *genius* sacrificing at an altar. It was from the hoard found in 1873, at Barley Pound, near Crondall, Hants. Sir John Evans, President of the Royal Numismatic Society, is well known as one of the highest authorities on early British coins.

DAGGER MONEY.

IN former times, when travelling in England, and especially on the northern border, was not so safe as in the twentieth century, the Judges often needed an escort when passing from one town to another on circuit. It was the duty of Newcastle-on-the-Tyne to provide such protection for the journey between that town and Carlisle. As time went on, the actual provision of a guard was replaced by the payment of money for the purpose, and it was this contribution that became known as "dagger money." To this day the old custom is kept up, and at the Newcastle assizes the Judge receives from the Mayor a coin which is probably itself a curiosity, and which also serves as an interesting souvenir of this strange survival.

OBITUARY.

FREDERIC WILLIAM MADDEN.

FREDERIC WILLIAM MADDEN, who died June 21, 1904, was, like his father, Sir Frederic, for many years employed in the British Museum, where he was attached to the Department of Antiquities and of Coins and Medals from 1859 to 1868. He was the Secretary of the London Numismatic Society (now the Royal Numismatic Society) and joint editor of its journal, *The Numismatic Chronicle*, for eight years or more, to which he contributed many papers. After a period of work on international exhibitions, he went to Brighton College as Secretary and Librarian in 1874. Finally he was chief Librarian of the Brighton Public Library from 1888 to 1902. His work in Numismatics was considerable, and includes two volumes on the coins of the Jews, and a Handbook of Roman Numismatics, 1861, besides a number of contributions to popular publications.

EDITORIAL.

LETTERED LEGENDS ON THE PRIVATE ISSUES OF GOLD COINS.

ONE of the most interesting series to the American collectors of Gold Coins is that of the Private Issues in this metal, which appeared in the decade following the discovery of gold in California, in 1849, and later in the far western States and Oregon. These issues were Necessity pieces, which successfully supplied what the U. S. Government was unable to do for some years after those territories became a part of the National domain; and as in most cases their intrinsic value was quite equal if not superior to that of the authorized coinage, they were slow in finding their way to the melting pot, to be transformed into legal tender. The prices these pieces bring, when they occasionally appear in the auction room, show that their value has not depreciated in the half century since they were first put upon the market by the various Assay Offices and private bankers who struck them. Descriptions of most of these coins have been given, with illustrations, in previous volumes of the *Journal*, and it is not our intention to go over that ground again in this article. The particular point of interest just now is to show the correlation of collectors, whatever may be the special topic to which they devote their research, as will be presently shown.

It will no doubt be remembered that several of these coins bear letters, which, at the time they appeared, were not only significant but in general easily read by those among whom the pieces were designed to circulate, but which, in the lapse of years since they were struck, have assumed a somewhat mystical character. This fact has by no means detracted from their interest; indeed, it has rather enhanced it, especially among those who have endeavored to decipher them, but with hardly an exception, without success. We recall but one on which the letters are intentionally cabalistic; this is the well known Five Dollar piece, a Mormon coin, issued by the Deseret Assay Office in 1860; having an eagle displayed, and holding the olive branch and arrows, with a bee-hive, the Mormon emblem, on his breast; the legend DESERET ASSAY OFFICE 5. D. on the obverse, and a lion seated (*couchant*) to left, with date 1860 below, and curiously shaped letters making a legend around the edge of the reverse. These letters have been said, with how much of truth we cannot tell, to resemble those on the famous gold plate (?) on which the revelation to the Mormon prophet professed to be founded. Certain Masonic traditions and emblems were mingled with the "secret work" of the founders of that faith, and to this the lion is believed to have some allusion. In the Royal Arch Degree of the American Masonic ritual, and in certain of the degrees corresponding thereto in the ritual of English Freemasons, the text "Holiness to the Lord" — associated with "the holy crown" of the Aaronic priesthood (See Exodus xxxix: 30) — is of frequent occurrence. This is said to be the interpretation of the mystical letters on the Deseret coin, and this explanation is confirmed by the fact that a priestly mitre, surrounded by this text, appears on the Mormon Twenty-dollar coinage struck in 1849 at Salt Lake City. On the reverse of this piece are the letters C. S. L. C. P. G. which have been interpreted Coinage (or Coin of) Salt Lake City, Pure Gold.

The meaning of N. G. & N. on the Half Eagle struck in San Francisco in 1849, usually known by these letters, was explained for the first time, we believe, in the *Journal* for April, 1903, and the significance of the letters shown to be Norris, Grigg, and Norris, the name of a San Francisco firm of the period. The coin of the Oregon Exchange Co., for Five Dollars, struck in 1849, having on the obverse a beaver over the letters T. O. and the date, has above the device the letters K. M. T. A. W. R. P. C. S.; there is also a Ten Dollar piece with the letters K. M. T. P. C. S. and O. T. below. Mr. T. Greenburg, of San Francisco, has sent to the *Philatelic West* the following, which serves to interpret these letters, heretofore unexplained; quoting from an old history of Oregon, he says: —

One of the last acts of the provisional government had been to authorize the weighing, assaying and coining of gold — an act which was rendered necessary by the great amount of "dust" in circulation, and the influx of the debased South American coins; and an association of gentlemen taking the matter in hand, bore all the expense of the dies, machinery and labor — coining about \$10,000 in the summer of 1849. They succeeded in raising the price of dust from \$11.00 to \$16.00 per ounce, and stopping the influx of South American coin. The gentlemen who conferred this great benefit to Oregon territory were (on the \$10.00 gold piece) Messrs. Rilbourne [probably a typographic error for Kilbourne,] Magruder, Thornton, Capt. Park, Campbell, Smith. On the \$5.00 piece were the following gentlemen: Messrs. Kilbourne, Gov. Abernethy, Dr. White, Rector, Campbell and Smith. The above named gentlemen were members of the Oregon Exchange Company. . . . Coining was done in San Francisco, and the provisional mint of the territory of Oregon, located in Oregon City, was closed for good, after a few brief months of existence. Hence the scarcity of the two coins.

The letters T. O. on the smaller piece have sometimes been read as the initials of Dr. Thos. Ormsby, of Philadelphia, but the O. T. on the larger coin seems to indicate that we should read them *Territory of Oregon* or *Oregon Territory*, and, with the information above cited, we find the letters on the Ten Dollar piece are the initials of Kilbourne, Magruder, Thornton, Park, Campbell, Smith; and on the Five, the same names are indicated with the addition of Abernethy, White and Rector (for the initials after the T). In many cuts of this piece C is given as G, and the letter is not too clearly cut on the coin, but Dickeson, in his plate, has C very distinctly.

